

Message Text

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APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY (SECTO 19019)

ARA:ECA:RWZIMMERMANN

ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN

AF:C:EMARKS

AF:JBLAKE

S/S:(SECTO 19019)

S:SERETARY PER SECTO 19019

S/S:O:DLMACK

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P 250811Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 184222

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BR, US

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER

SILVEIRA REGARDING AMCIT DANIEL GEARHART

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY
TO FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR ANTONIO: I AM WRITING TO YOU
SEPARATELY ON A NUMBER OF ITEMS WE LEFT PENDING AFTER OUR
SANTIAGO MEETING. IN THIS BRIEF MESSAGE, HOWEVER, I WANT
TO THANK YOU PERSONALLY FOR BRAZIL'S AGREEMENT TO JOIN IN
OUR ATTEMPTS TO PERSUADE THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT TO
COMMUTE THE UNJUSTIFIABLY HARSH SENTENCE IMPOSED ON
AMERICAN CITIZEN DANIEL GEARHART.

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3. IN ASKING BRAZIL, AND OTHER NATIONS, TO USE THEIR

GOOD OFFICES IN LUANDA, WE HAD HOPED THAT IN THE FACE OF SUCH REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, PRESIDENT NETO WOULD USE HIS AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE A LESSER PENALTY AS A GESTURE OF MERCY AND GOOD WILL ON THE PART OF THE NEW REGIME. SINCE THE PLEAS OF GOVERNMENTS, RESPECTED PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AND NUMEROUS INDIVIDUALS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WENT UNHEEDED, WE CAN ONLY CONCLUDE THAT THERE WERE OTHER, OVERRIDING, POLITICAL PRESSURES ON NETO WHICH LEFT NO ROOM FOR THE EXERCISE OF CLEMENCY.

4. WHILE WE UNDERSTAND THAT IT PROVED IMPOSSIBLE TO CONVEY BRAZIL'S VIEWS TO THE APPROPRIATE ANGOLAN AUTHORITIES BEFORE THE SUMMARY EXECUTION OF MR. GEARHART WAS CARRIED OUT, YOUR GOVERNMENT'S WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE IN THIS HUMANITARIAN EFFORT WAS DEEPLY APPRECIATED. WARM REGARDS. HENRY A. KISSINGER. END TEXT. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

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To: BRASILIA
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